Dear Jim, 10/10/84

After reading the Pist's Federal Report column today, the artcile "Administration Targets Legal Fee Awards," I wrote the enclosed Letter to the Editor. Then I thought that it might be a good idea to speak to the reporter, and I did. He may phone you.

As I say in the letter I told him in greater detail that the litigating costs to the government, costs incurred because it has violated the laws only, are ever so much greater than the payments to plaintiffs' counsel. And I illustrated with some of our cases.

He seemed interested in going further, in ways the public interest people to whom he spoke apparently never even indicated to him.

I told him that while I am not an authority on it, my belief is that most of the cases do not involve prestigeous and expensive counsel, that for the most part people who cannot afford a lawyer cannot reach these eminences, and that more typical and perhaps informative to him would be people like Mark Lynch and Cornish Hitchcock.

It will not be up to him to decide whether or not to go into the actual costs, so enormously greater than plaintifs' counsel fees. But maybe he can interest his desk.

Best,